



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

In reply quote No.

MACHINERY ON RURAL HOLDINGS

MARCH, 1959

EIGHTH FLOOR,
DA COSTA BUILDING,
68 GRENFELL STREET,
ADELAIDE.

South Australia

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This bulletin, published in its present form for the first time, gives details of machinery in use on rural holdings in South Australia (excluding obsolete machines and those unlikely to be used again).

The first table shows trends in numbers of machines and implements in the State since 1950, and is followed by particulars of machinery in counties and divisions at March, 1959. Additional information relating to tractors (in 1957) and hay balers and forage harvesters (in 1959) is summarised on page 4.

FARM MACHINERY

In the past decade, the numbers of tractors, fertilizer distributors and shearing machines on rural holdings have more than doubled whilst rotary hoes and hay balers have more than trebled in number.

Machinery in use on farms - March, 1950 and 1956-59.

Type of Machine	1950	1956	1957	1958	1959
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Tractors -					
Wheeled (including half track)	11,184	21,155	22,826	23,952	25,116
Crawler	2,525	3,190	3,186	3,336	3,416
Rotary Hoes	1,108	3,242	3,414	3,507	4,015
Fertilizer Distributors	3,393	6,431	6,683	6,895	7,545
Grain Drills -					
Combine type	12,030	13,650	14,066	14,084	14,716
Other types	4,760	4,342	4,361	4,368	4,562
Reapers, Strippers and Harvesters	13,605	13,081	13,030	13,024	13,053
Hay Presses (Stationary)	860	801	796	689	715
Hay Balers (Pick-up)	860	1,582	1,984	2,184	2,732
Hay Rakes	6,722	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6,060
Mowers	5,028	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	8,313
Potato Diggers	365	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	624
Milking Machines -					
No. of Units. 1	400	1,300	1,388	1,356	1,389
2	2,133	3,498	3,633	3,790	3,877
3	1,092	1,213	1,217	1,179	1,182
4	434	618	668	679	729
5	73	117	115	110	105
6 and over	66	174	187	230	255
Total Machines	4,198	6,920	7,208	7,344	7,537
Total Units	10,447	16,090	16,740	17,206	17,777
Shearing Machines -					
No. of Stands. 1	2,384	4,407	4,596	4,628	4,842
2	3,498	6,165	6,432	6,867	7,085
3	552	1,072	1,136	1,224	1,241
4	214	303	341	369	404
5	63	73	72	68	87
6 and over	135	114	113	124	119
Total Machines	6,846	12,134	12,690	13,280	13,778
Total Stands	13,253	22,355	23,373	24,697	25,586

MACHINERY IN COUNTIES

Numbers of rural holdings and of principal agricultural machines and implements in counties and statistical divisions are shown in the next two pages. These statistics give an indication of the relative importance of various farming activities in different parts of the State e.g. 52% of all are milking machines but only 26% of all shearing machines are in the Central division.

Machinery on Rural Holdings in Counties, March, 1959.

County/ STATISTICAL DIVISION	Rural Holdings	Tractors		Rotary Hoes	Drills & Combines	Fertilizer Distributors
		Wheel	Crawler			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Adelaide	5,156	2,663	626	1,371	950	1,187
Carnarvon	360	304	128	22	231	237
Eyre	516	352	25	18	350	55
Fergusson	889	1,233	151	86	1,138	191
Gawler	902	845	39	172	895	99
Hindmarsh	1,700	1,381	171	139	698	933
Light	1,584	1,243	61	158	1,083	324
Sturt	1,088	937	70	131	783	308
CENTRAL	12,195	8,958	1,271	2,097	6,128	3,334
Burra	233	190	46	13	175	39
Daly	1,014	1,302	59	130	1,322	173
Kimberley	68	46	19	3	33	2
Stanley	1,195	1,237	120	131	1,254	260
Victoria	953	932	87	179	902	156
LOWER NORTH	3,463	3,707	331	456	3,686	630
Dalhousie	381	313	47	28	275	32
Frome	617	582	90	122	590	79
Herbert	51	27	9	-	10	1
Newcastle	94	73	8	6	51	1
Other Counties	122	71	23	6	24	-
UPPER NORTH	1,265	1,066	177	162	950	113
Buckingham	599	614	89	64	460	399
Cardwell	163	183	55	12	164	101
Grey	1,958	1,166	90	173	471	761
MacDonnell	514	492	146	72	285	268
Robe	935	801	116	133	398	449
SOUTH EASTERN	4,169	3,256	496	454	1,778	1,978
Buxton	165	287	52	12	262	10
Dufferin	76	100	20	-	135	15
Flinders	552	717	186	145	726	334
Jervois	646	1,024	190	112	1,071	155
Kintore	41	51	8	-	73	3
Le Hunte	213	317	33	23	353	22
Musgrave	256	362	54	48	366	91
Robinson	232	324	84	12	385	23
Way	121	193	40	1	210	11
Other Counties	68	47	38	5	47	5
WESTERN	2,370	3,422	705	358	3,628	669
Albert	812	865	41	123	568	115
Alfred	726	802	30	95	587	83
Buccleuch	602	764	153	22	779	194
Chandos	431	559	60	54	539	96
Hamley	1,444	1,148	18	158	171	193
Russell	439	442	66	29	425	134
Young	46	53	9	5	38	6
MURRAY MALLEE	4,500	4,633	377	486	3,107	821
Outside of Counties	143	74	59	2	1	-
WHOLE STATE	28,105	25,116	3,416	4,015	19,278	7,545

Machinery on Rural Holdings in Counties, March, 1959 (Continued)

County/ STATISTICAL DIVISION	Harvesters (a)	Mowers	Hay Rakes	Hay Balers	Hay Presses	Milking Machines	Shearing Machines
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Units	Stands
Adelaide	331	1,143	642	224	157	3,197	972
Carnarvon	107	103	86	34	20	157	443
Eyre	389	98	101	30	23	280	440
Fergusson	958	449	341	146	12	502	1,235
Gawler	673	306	258	132	8	648	761
Hindmarsh	280	884	642	239	100	2,300	1,057
Light	904	419	346	111	63	884	895
Sturt	443	373	262	112	47	1,325	898
CENTRAL	4,085	3,775	2,678	1,028	430	9,293	6,701
Burra	136	59	45	26	5	56	454
Daly	923	453	362	189	10	524	1,356
Kimberley	19	10	6	1	2	10	156
Stanley	862	583	428	211	32	773	1,465
Victoria	696	392	315	149	20	535	1,157
LOWER NORTH	2,636	1,497	1,156	576	69	1,898	4,588
Dalhousie	245	98	72	33	9	174	567
Frome	451	186	160	73	13	281	761
Herbert	5	3	3	-	2	3	113
Newcastle	60	9	11	3	5	5	159
Other Counties	19	7	3	-	-	13	408
UPPER NORTH	780	303	249	109	29	476	2,008
Buckingham	304	274	223	128	19	230	899
Cardwell	107	72	54	30	5	58	270
Grey	82	771	481	264	51	2,928	1,500
MacDonnell	144	187	131	73	17	242	751
Robe	154	369	221	122	20	628	1,308
SOUTH EASTERN	791	1,673	1,110	617	112	4,086	4,728
Buxton	230	13	13	10	1	29	230
Dufferin	113	3	4	1	-	5	144
Flinders	505	164	135	72	5	213	893
Jervois	779	106	98	59	9	220	987
Kintore	48	3	4	3	2	14	106
Le Hunte	240	21	24	7	1	79	289
Masgrave	257	55	48	35	4	41	475
Robinson	317	33	21	18	6	57	427
Way	182	6	7	-	-	35	229
Other Counties	35	-	1	-	-	14	242
WESTERN	2,706	404	352	205	28	707	4,022
Albert	393	89	81	15	8	90	469
Alfred	342	90	80	32	4	130	368
Buccleuch	609	97	75	38	9	262	791
Chandos	422	145	118	53	4	126	531
Hamley	15	65	43	6	3	71	73
Russell	257	161	111	48	17	628	423
Young	17	13	7	5	2	4	58
MURRAY MALLEE	2,055	660	515	197	47	1,311	2,713
Outside of Counties	-	1	-	-	-	6	826
WHOLE STATE	13,053	8,313(b)	6,060(c)	2,732	715	17,777	25,586

(a) Includes Headers & Strippers but excludes Forage Harvesters.

(b) Comprising 6,329 power drive and 1,984 ground drive mowers.

(c) Comprising 3,444 side delivery, 932 buck and 1,684 dump type hay rakes.

HAY BALERS AND FORAGE HARVESTERS

Additional data on pick-up hay balers and forage harvesters as at 31st March, 1959, has been classified according to age and source of power.

Pick-up Balers and Forage Harvesters, March, 1959

Source of Power	Age in Years						
	Under 3	3-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15 and Over	Total
Balers - Twine Tie							
Power Take-off	503	575	299	18	2	2	1,399
Engine Functioned	418	449	138	45	10	-	1,060
Balers - Wire Tie							
Power Take-off	4	20	15	2	-	3	44
Engine Functioned	5	85	107	23	3	6	229
Total Balers	930	1,129	559	88	15	11	2,732
Forage Harvesters							
Power Take-off	92	53	14	2	3	1	165
Engine Functioned	3	4	8	1	-	5	21

TRACTORS ON RURAL HOLDINGS

It is planned to collect detailed information of tractors on farms in March, 1960. Similar data was last collected in March, 1957 and a classification of type, horsepower, kind of fuel used and age of tractors was published in Bulletin No. 10 of 1958.

A summary of numbers of tractors in March, 1957 classified according to type, age and kind of fuel used is repeated below.

Tractors on Rural Holdings - March, 1957

Type and Age	Kero- sene	Petrol	Diesel	Crude Oil	Total
<u>Wheel Tractors</u>					
Under 5 years	2,396	1,446	3,464	92	7,398
5 years and under 10 years	6,220	1,018	2,184	244	9,666
10 years and under 15 years	2,450	82	217	26	2,775
15 years and over	2,655	42	100	190	2,987
Total Wheel Tractors	13,721	2,588	5,965	552	22,826
<u>Crawler Tractors</u>					
Under 5 years	46	132	551	17	746
5 years and under 10 years	113	140	600	12	865
10 years and under 15 years	96	15	206	8	325
15 years and over	886	29	317	18	1,250
Total Crawler Tractors	1,141	316	1,674	55	3,186
<u>TOTAL TRACTORS</u>	14,862	2,904	7,639	607	26,012

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DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

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